Amendments to the Specification:

In the title:

STORAGE VIRTUALIZATION COMPUTER SYSTEM AND EXTERNAL CONTROLLER THEREOF ~~THEREFOR~~

In paragraph [0045]:

The SVC 200 receives IO requests and related data (the control signals and data signals) from the host entity 10 and executes the IO requests internally or maps the IO requests to the PSD array 400. The PSD array 400 comprises a plurality of physical storage devices 420, which can be hard disk drives (HDD), for example. Each of the PSDs is contained in a detachable canister attached to the storage virtualization controller. The SVC 200 can be used to enhance performance and/or improve data availability and/or increase storage capacity of a single logical media unit in view of the host entity 10.

In paragraph [0100]:

Storage virtualization subsystems typically also include functionality that allows devices in the subsystems, such as power supplies, fans, temperature monitors, etc, to be managed and monitored by the SVC(s). As mentioned before, this functionality is commonly referred to as enclosure management services (EMS). Often times, EMS is implemented using intelligent circuitry, that is circuitry that includes a CPU and runs a software program to achieve the desired functionality. Traditional Parallel SCSI and Fibre SV subsystems have typically relied on the standard SCSI protocols SAF-TE (Small Computer System Interface Accessed Fault Tolerant Enclosures) and SES (Small

Computer System Interface Enclosure Services), respectively, as the primary communication mechanism that the SVC uses to communicate with the SVS's EMS. These protocols, in turn, rely on a connection between the SVC(s) and the SVS consisting of an IO device interconnect that provides transport of SCSI command protocol, such as Parallel SCSI or Fibre interconnects. However, in the typical S-ATA SVS, there is no such connection between the SVC(s) and the "local" SVS (note that the expansion ports do provide such a connection to "remote" JBOD subsystems, but not to the "local" SVS). Such a connection could be implemented, but it would increase the cost of the SVS significantly. A more cost-effective solution would be to use a low-cost interconnect and communicate over this interconnect using proprietary protocols.

In paragraph [0050]:

The host-side IO device interconnect controller 220 is connected to the host entity 10 and the CPC 240 to serve as an interface and buffer between the SVC 200 and the host entity 10, and receives IO requests and related data from the host entity 10 and map and/or transfer them to the CPC 240. The host-side IO device interconnect controller 220 comprises one or more host-side ports for coupling to the host entity 10. Some common port types that might be incorporated here are: Fibre Channel supporting Fabric, point-to-point, public loop and/or private loop connectivity in target mode, parallel SCSI operating in target mode, ethernet supporting the iSCSI (Internet Small Computer System Interface) protocol operating in target mode, Serial-Attached SCSI (SAS) operating in target mode, and Serial ATA operating in target mode.